

REMARKS

As a preliminary matter, Applicants extend their appreciation to Examiner Lao for the courtesies extended to applicants' representative during the telephone interviews of March 13 and March 16, 2006, during which some suggestions were made for possibly putting the application in condition for allowance. It is believed that the claims are in condition for allowance, following entry of this Supplemental Amendment. However, the Examiner is kindly invited to contact applicants' representative, Scott Richardson, in the event there are suggestions to put the claims in better condition for allowance.

Favorable reconsideration of the present patent application is respectfully requested in view of the foregoing claim amendments. No claims have been added or canceled by this Supplemental Amendment, and claims 2, 11 and 13 have been amended. Claims 1-17 remain pending in the application.

Examiner's Amendment Authorization

In the event it would further expedite the examination and allowance of this application, the Examiner is hereby authorized to enter the foregoing claim amendments of this Supplemental Amendment by Examiner's Amendment, if it would be more convenient for the Examiner to do so than to wait for entry of this Supplemental Amendment.


Deposit Account Authorization / Provisional Time Extension Petition

It is believed that no extension of time, claim fees or any other fees are owed for this paper. However, to the extent necessary, a petition for an extension of time under 37 C.F.R. 1.136 is hereby made. Please charge any shortage in fees due in connection with the filing of this, concurrent and future replies, including extension of time fees, to Deposit Account 50-0439 and please credit any excess fees to such deposit account.

CONCLUSION

In view of the foregoing, it is respectfully submitted that the application is in condition for allowance. However, in the event any issues remain unresolved the Examiner is kindly invited to contact applicant's representative, Scott Richardson, at telephone number 1.703.739.0573 so that such issues may be resolved as expeditiously as possible.

Respectfully submitted,



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